

Group VI: Claim 40, drawn to a method for screening an agent for treating metabolic bone disease by using an osteoclast cell; and

Group VII. Claim 41, drawn to an agent for treating metabolic bone disease.

Applicants have elected with traverse, Group I: Claims 21-25, for further prosecution.

The M.P.E.P. in § 803 states:

"If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without a serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions."

Applicants respectfully submit that a search of all the claims would not impose a serious burden on the Office.

Applicants contend this application is now in condition for examination on the merits and early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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